

KARAKUL SHEEP RAISING FOR FUR NEW EL PASO VALLEY ENTERPRISE

Animals to Be Bred Here and Distributed Throughout the Country for Crossing With Domestic Sheep; Dr. Young Brings Them From Russia and Finds That They Thrive in Climate of the El Paso Valley.

(Continued from page 1, this section.)

quency is declining yearly, owing to cross breeding with soft woolled sheep and inbreeding.

First Sheep Ten Years Ago.

The first importation of Karakul was made in 1905, although for ten years previously I had been seeking permission to import them. When my small and poorly selected herd was brought to the port of New York in the spring of 1905, they were kept in quarantine in Albany, N. Y., for months and then removed to Texas. Here they were bred together and also crossed to Shropshires and other fine wool breeds for at that time we did not know to what extent fine wool interfered with tight curl formation. Some of the progeny of the first importation have been sold to two persons in Texas and one in Kansas. From these animals no tight curled fur (Persian lamb) can be expected, although they will produce the opened curled fur (Astrakhan), the skins of which will bring from \$2 to \$4. Skins with tight curls may bring \$20 per skin and furnish the so-called "unborn baby lamb fur." These animals will also give a great increase in weight, breed out the sheepy taste of our native breeds and produce the hardiest hybrids, with the rustling qualities of our goat, that will thrive and get fat on weeds alone, preferring Russian thistles to any grass in this country.

Only an Average Lot.

Owing to the fact that the first lot was secured through a European Russian agricultural society, which was permitted to import sheep to European Russia from Bokhara, whose officials did not know the necessity of securing animals free from fine wool, only a fair average lot was secured. Just one of the rams proved to be the sire of the high priced Persian lambskins, one or two of the ewes were also valuable, but the remainder contained the undesirable fine under wool and yielded only Astrakhan fur.

Inbreeding will destroy all chances of tight curl formation, which is essential to valuable lamb fur, and hence I contend that blood from the last

two importations becomes a necessity, as the good lambs of the first importation are the descendants of one ram only.

Back for More Sheep.

In October, 1912, after we had discovered that it was the presence of fine, soft wool which was deteriorating the quality of curls, I went to Russia again for more. I attended the great sheep convention at Moscow, and it was my pleasure to be able to exhibit beautiful tight curled, black, lustrous lambskins that were produced by three quarter bred and even half blood Karakul-Lincoln and Karakul-Persian Fatrump rams bred to Lincoln and Persian Fatrump ewes, free from fine wool contamination. I was shown similar skins produced in the same manner in Russia from best Karakul rams on Besarabian, Tschukotka and other coarse wool breeds. From this it must be evident that it is not necessary to buy Karakul rams at ruinous prices to produce \$12 and \$15 skins. It won't be many years when grade tight curl producing rams will be sold for \$100 and less.

"Money In It."

When lambs can be reared for the meat market for an average price of \$4.50 each at four months of age, the immense profits of raising three day old lambs at \$10 each, is appreciable. The profits are all the greater when dead lambs, usually disposed of as garbage, can be skinned for a profit of from \$5 to \$10 each on an average.

Women should remember when they pay several hundred dollars for a Persian lamb fur coat, they are not buying the skins at \$12 and \$15, but are paying twice and often three times more. Thus, if they want to secure a coat for the right price, they should engage in raising Karakul sheep. The price of Persian lamb skins has risen 300 percent in the past 20 years.

As a further evidence of the greater profits of the raising of Karakul sheep, I will say that a coat of the much quicker growth of the lambs, they can be shipped to the market much earlier, and hence command the highest early spring lamb price. It

A KARAKUL EWE AND SHEEP



Dr. C. C. Young, who introduced the Karakul sheep to the El Paso valley, from Russia, is shown holding the sheep in the picture. Dr. Young is the author of the article accompanying this picture and describing this industry.

A RUSSIAN KARAKUL RAM



Louped by Dr. C. C. Young to T. W. Tomlinson, secretary of the American National Livestock association, for the purpose of breeding up his flock.

was my pleasure to show a lamb on January 12 of this year that weighed nearly 40 pounds, although it is true that where we expect such remarkable weight we must confine ourselves entirely to the large Karakul-Dobush class, as the small Karakul-Arabi will not give much of an increase over certain of our native breeds.

What the Karakul Does.

It can be truthfully said of the Karakul sheep that it—

Lives and thrives entirely on weeds. Will keep your land and ditches clean of Johnson grass and weeds.

Will not molest your crops as long as there is a weed on your place.

Produces the best mutton on earth and absolutely breeds out the sheepy taste, characteristic to American breeds.

Will cause an increase of 25 percent in weight when crossed to native sheep.

Will mature 25 percent quicker than any other breed in America and four months' old lambs, produced by the large Karakul-Dobush class, will weigh 100 pounds and over.

Philanthropist Gives Fortune to Aid Wounded

Berne, Switzerland, Jan. 22.—Dr. Hans Weber, a philanthropist of Uzendorf, who recently died at Cannes, France, has left an entire fortune of \$400,000 to the Winkler-Foundations. The interest of the rich legacy will be used for the support of Swiss soldiers disabled in the service, and their families.

The total income of the people of the United States is \$25,000,000,000 a year.

CATTLE FEEDING IS PROFITABLE

Dairying Is Also Proving Profitable in the Valleys About El Paso.

(Continued from Previous Page.)

feeding is quite a new industry, though a successful one and a growing one.

Poor Hay Fair Feed.

Some hay is being fed that has lost many of its better qualities because of unusually severe wettings received while on the ground. This hay contains much less protein and is therefore less fattening to the cattle, but serves as a "roughness" for cattle being fed on cottonseed cake and other foods that are foodless.

Tolbert brothers—William T. and L. E.—both residents of El Paso, have their feeding pens at Canutillo, Tex., where within the past year two immense silos and large pens have been constructed. Another silo is to be constructed this year and the pen space will also be enlarged. The Santa Fe railroad has constructed loading pens at Canutillo as a result of the enterprise undertaken there by Tolbert brothers.

Feeding Fourteen Hundred Head.

The Tolberts are feeding 1400 head of "white faces" at their pens at present. Four hundred of these are heifers that are to be sent back to the range. Eight hundred are bulls that are to be sold to breeders throughout the country. One hundred head are on full feed for beef. It is an experiment for Tolbert brothers, but they believe they are going to make it a success. They are keeping account of every cost entering into the care of their charges, so that when sales are made, they will know exactly what profit they have realized. They are trying out several kinds of feed—"Mist-Rite," a made in Texas food, cottonseed cake and alfalfa are all being experimented with.

Blooded Cattle Cheapest.

Discussing the feeding question, Wm. T. Tolbert said: "It is cheapest to buy blooded cattle for any feeding proposition, or for dairying also. I believe the day of making money off the ordinary cow is past. Of course, where the range is good, there is money in the ordinary cow, but where you have to buy the feed to do the fattening, buy a good animal to begin with. We paid \$20 for every calf we are feeding. A blooded animal will take on flesh with very little feeding compared to the amount necessary to fatten an ordinary cow. The difference in price of such a cow and one that is pure bred.

Money Makers For Farmers.

"Cattle feeding in the El Paso valley, animal that is not well bred. It costs more to put fat on an ordinary cow combined with the dairy business, ought to do more to make money for the farmers than anything else. In the past, the farmers had to depend upon the open market for disposing of their hay. They can feed up their own hay, with their own cattle, and they do not have to worry about a market, for there is always a market for beef. Even if

they feed up only half the alfalfa crop, they have removed that much hay from the market and are going to get a better price for what they sell than if they retained it all and tried to throw a full crop on the market. They can also get rid of hay when feeding that they cannot possibly sell in the open market, although it is almost as good as the green hay that classifies as best and brings the biggest price. Discolored hay never brings a good price if it can be sold at all, but in many cases, it is almost as good for fattening cattle as the best looking bale of hay ever put up.

"Several of the farmers have asked my advice and it is always the same: See how much hay you have to spare; buy enough cattle to eat it up. It is a crime to waste any hay or forage on the farm, for cattle can eat it all. They like a little something for 'roughness' when they are eating other stuff—whether it is silage, cotton meal cake or anything else."

AUTOMOBILE ACCESSORIES.

Five years ago it was difficult to buy automobile supplies and accessories in El Paso. Today a stock of every make of tire are to be found in the city, and parts for many makes of automobiles are kept in stock at all times. Most of the agencies for automobiles have territories outside of El Paso, and within a short time this city has become the great automobile center of the southwest, as well as northern Mexico.

Official Program for Convention American National Livestock Assn.

Monday, January 24.
Executive committee meets at 10 a. m. at Hotel Paso del Norte.
8 p. m.—Banquet to officers, executive committee and invited guests by El Paso chamber of commerce.
Music by Van Surdam orchestra and Orchestra Tipica.
Cattlemen's cabaret. Spanish dancing and music. Hotel Paso del Norte.
DISCUSSION IS INVITED ON EVERY SUBJECT PRESENTED.
FIRST DAY.

Tuesday, January 25, 1916.
9 a. m.—Serenade of officers of American National Livestock association. Texas Grand Theater.
10 a. m.—Music—Sixteenth United States infantry band.
Convention called to order.
Invocation—Rev. L. R. Millican.
Address of welcome—Hon. Tom, C. Lea, mayor of El Paso.
J. H. Nations, president of Panhandle and Southwestern Stockmen's association.
Response to address of welcome—H. A. Jastro, Bakersfield, Calif.
Annual address of president—Dwight B. Heard.
"Livestock Conditions in Mexico"—J. D. Jackson, president Cattle Raisers' association of Texas.
"Financing Livestock Loans"—Marion Sansom, Fort Worth, Tex., member Federal Reserve bank.
"Livestock Conditions in Western Canada"—Dr. S. F. Tolmie, vice president Western Canada Livestock union, Victoria, B. C.
2 p. m.—Races at the track of the Jockey Club Juarez, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. By the kindness of Col. Matt Winn, president of the Jockey Club Juarez, all boxes will be reserved for visiting women and the grand stand for visiting livestock men.
8 p. m.—Reception and musical for visiting women—Hotel Paso del Norte.

TUESDAY EVENING.
At Banquet Hall on Ninth Floor of Paso del Norte Hotel.
8 p. m.—Illustrated lectures.
"Prevention of Losses of Livestock by Poisonous Plants"—Dr. C. D. Marsh, physiologist, U. S. department of agriculture.
"Hybrids in Central Asia"—Dr. C. C. Young, Belen, Tex.

Wednesday, January 26, 1916.
9 a. m.—Serenade of leading hotels, Eighth United States cavalry band. Texas Grand Theater.
10 a. m.—Music by Eighth United States cavalry band.
"Municipal Alattoria"—L. T. Pryor, San Antonio, Tex.
"Market Problems"—A. E. de Riquelme, chairman committee on marketing, E. L. Burke, Omaha, Neb., and others.
"Why Public Domain Should Be Leased"—Frank J. Hagenbarth, president National Wool Growers' association.
Report of attorney—Sam H. Cowan.
"What Range Sanitation Will Accomplish"—G. W. Barnes, livestock specialist, Tucson, Ariz.
"Rural School Conditions From a Livestock Man's Standpoint"—O. M. Plummer, chairman committee on education of American National Livestock association.

3 p. m.—Automobile ride over El Paso. Starting from Hotel Paso del Norte.
4 p. m.—Grand military drill and exhibition at United States military post at Fort Bliss, participated in by the Eighth cavalry, Sixth infantry, Seventh infantry, 16th infantry, 20th infantry and Fourth field artillery. Music by four United States army regimental bands. Autos having visitors in charge will include Fort Bliss in their route, allowing guests to view the military maneuvers.

8 p. m.—Ball for visiting ladies and gentlemen. Ballroom of the Hotel Paso del Norte.

THIRD DAY.
Thursday, January 27.

9 a. m.—Serenade of leading hotels, Sixth United States infantry band. Texas Grand Theater.
10 a. m.—Music by Sixth United States infantry band.
"Grazing Experiments on the Range Reserves"—W. C. Barnes, forest service, Washington, D. C.
"The Application of the Proposed Ferris 640 Acre Stock Raising Homestead Bills to Our Western Grazing Ranges"—Prof. J. J. Thorner of University of Arizona.

"Extirmination of Predatory Wild Animals"—Victor Culberson, chairman committee on predatory wild animals.
"The Interest of the Cattle Raiser in Oleomargarine Taxation"—B. W. Couch, president of Texas Cotton Seed Crushers' association. Consideration of Resolutions.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 p. m.—Report of executive committee.
Reports of other committees.
Election of officers.
Selection of next place of meeting.
Unfinished business.
Adjournment.

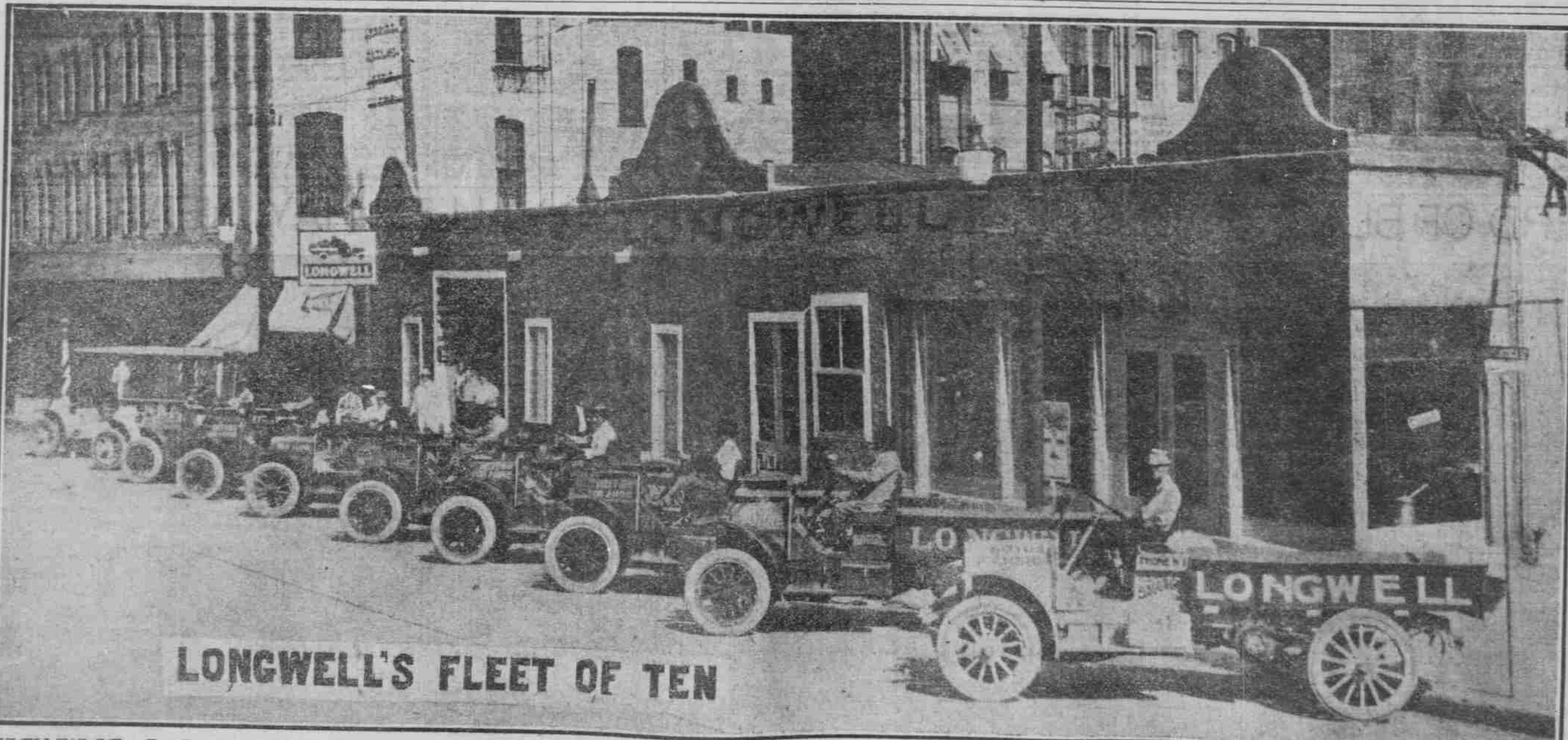
4 to 6 p. m.—Reception given by Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Nations, 904 Magoffin avenue, for all visiting gentlemen and their ladies.

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